

agency which exacts 12½ per cent. from every manufacturer who has fabricated the works from these designs, it will eventually recoil on the institution they have been appointed to direct; the incubus of the "clique" will neutralise any advantage to the general manufacturing interest of England, if it does not even blight the very purpose of the establishment of the School of Design.

The position of all true designers is largely compromised in the ensuing award of prizes; it remains to be seen if the public are to be misled by management, or mystified by false cognomens.

AN ARTIST.

### Correspondence.

SIR,—On perusing the first page of advertisements in one of your late numbers, I felt much surprised to find them the medium by which an injury was to be done to that portion of society which, above all others, it is your duty, as Editor of *THE BUILDER*, to protect, viz., the master builder, the honest foreman, and the deserving mechanic. I allude to an advertisement, of which the following is a copy:—

"Notice.—To Foremen of Carpenters.—A young man, aged 24, by trade a carpenter, and a good workman, is in want of a job, but will not work under wages. Any foreman that can give the advertiser a job, he will allow a discount weekly, that may be agreed on, as long as he can keep him on: the utmost secrecy will be observed. Address, &c."

I think it would be difficult to imagine a more direct robbery than this intended upon the master builder, and perhaps on one of his best joiners, by depriving him of his employment, if the worthless author of the advertisement can find a corresponding rogue, in the character of a foreman, to carry out his intentions. You will perceive, Sir, instead of endeavouring to obtain employment by his own merit, he proposes, in effect, that the good workman shall be displaced to make room for him, or, at all events, offers an inducement for this; and his fellow rogue, if he succeed in finding one, is to be compensated for carrying out his intention by receiving a portion of the money he would receive weekly, over and above the value of his labour. Surely the columns of *THE BUILDER* will not be permitted to be the medium for concocting robberies of this description; if so, we may shortly expect to see something like the following:—

"To Builders' Foremen.—The advertiser has great facilities for the disposal of stolen property, of any description that is portable: a good price given. Apply at the office of *THE BUILDER*, &c."

I am aware that, generally, the editor is no more acquainted with the nature or character of the advertisements than his readers, therefore I attribute no blame; but having called your attention to the case, I hope you will see the necessity of giving some instructions on such matters in future.—I am, Sir, &c.

A BUILDER'S FOREMAN.

Walworth, April 18, 1848.

### THE FRICTION HAMMER.

SIR,—I see in your number for the 25th of March last, an article quoted from the *Bristol Mirror*, wherein it states that a friction hammer has been erected at the Great Western Steamship Company's works in that city, by its inventor Mr. Jones, the manager.

I cannot understand how Mr. Jones can allow himself to be put in print as the inventor of the friction hammer, when it is well known to engineers and machinists that the honour belongs to the late Mr. Hicks, a partner in the engineering house of Forrester and Co., of Liverpool.

The inventor very kindly shewed me one of his machines at work in Liverpool, four or five years ago, where it had been for some time, and offered me a drawing of it.

My object in writing to you, Mr. Editor, is to claim what is due to the memory of one that has long since passed into the other world. Mr. Hicks had a kind, generous, and inventive mind, and did not avail himself of the patent laws to protect his invention, but left it to ungrateful man to hand his name down to posterity as the inventor of this machine; but

as soon as he was thought to be forgotten, Mr. Jones, or some of his friends for him, claim, through the press, the invention of this very useful machine.—I am, Sir, &c.,

RICHARD CLYBURN, Engineer.

Uley, near Dursley, April 19, 1848.

### Miscellaneous.

PEEL ON THE LABOUR QUESTION.—Sir Robert Peel, in a speech on the "Sedition Bill," last week, when speaking of the experiments now making in France, said,—I hope the working classes of this country will not be deluded by the doctrines that are held thereupon that subject which intimately concerns their labour and the wages of labour. If the doctrines that are there maintained be true, if there be indeed an antagonism between capital and labour—if it be true that all men, without reference to their different capabilities, different strength, and different capacities, are to have some iron formula applied to them, and all to receive the same daily wages,—if these things be true, then all the experience and all the lights of the last 150 years have existed in vain. Let us burn the works of Turgot, Say, and Adam Smith. Let us establish in triumph the doctrines of the Mississippi scheme, and the doctrines of that Law who was supposed to involve France in misery and confusion. Let us wait for the results of this experiment. Let us calmly contemplate whether it is possible that executive Governments can be great manufacturers—whether it be possible for them to force capital to employ industry—whether they can contravene the decrees of Providence, and reduce all men, without reference to habits or strength, to receive the same wages. For God's sake give that social principle the same fair trial as you are about to see given to the political principle. But I do earnestly trust—I have that confidence in the good sense of the working classes of this country—that they will believe that no false delusion of the compulsory sharing of profits, no enmity directed against capital, no extinction of competition among individuals, no overpowering of individual enterprise by Government undertakings at the public expense, can possibly be for the benefit of the working classes, or have any ultimate result than involving them in misery and ruin. Upon the political principles I pronounce no opinion; but it would be a shameful suppression of the truth, without arrogating to ourselves too much of the liberty of speech, not to predict fatal consequences to those social experiments now in progress in other countries.

THE LIVERPOOL ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.—The new society is going on well. The mayor of Liverpool has accepted the office of president; Mr. J. A. Picton is chairman *pro tem.*; and Mr. C. Reed the secretary. Dissemination of taste and knowledge, improvement of construction, public improvement, the formation of a good architectural and artistic library for reference, preservation of the remains of antiquity, and facilities for improvement to students, are the objects aimed at by the founders. Some of our readers may be disposed to aid in the formation of the library by donations.

STAINED GLASS.—Mr. Warrington has just now completed a memorial window in St. James's Church, Bury St. Edmund's, and three windows in the church at Caversham, near Reading. He has a triplet also ready for fixing in St. Martin's Church, Hereford; and some windows in hand for St. Lawrence's Church, Reading. It is in anticipation by the dean and chapter to fill with stained glass the great west windows of Norwich Cathedral. A short time ago, we saw some small stained-glass windows, nicely executed by Mr. E. B. Lamb, the architect, for a private chapel in Scotland, built under his direction. As we shall probably give an illustration of the building, we can then further allude to them.

GLASS.—Sir: A great deal was said some time ago about substituting glass bells for metal, in schools, if not in churches: can any of your correspondents give me information on this subject? It was said that they were used in churches in Sweden some few years ago. Is this true, and do they succeed?—A BUILDER.

PROJECTED WORKS.—Advertisements have been issued for tenders, by 9th May, for the erection of a mill in the Watford Union Workhouse, and for the erection of closets, wash-rooms, &c., and alterations and additions to drainage there; by 13th, for the building of a wall for inclosing the Kensington new Workhouse grounds; by 9th, for the erection of a new savings' bank in Cambridge; by 4th, for the erection of a rectory-house and offices at Bury, near Ramsey; by 2nd, for the supply of gravel, granite, gratings, gutter-plates, pitchers, oak planks, &c., necessary in repair of Portsea Parish highways; by 2nd June, for the erection of baths and washhouses at Hull; by 10th May, for the iron-work in girder-bridges on Nos. 1 and 2 contracts, Rugby and Stamford Railway; and by a time not specified, for the erection of the Worcester Exchange.

THE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY of the Archdeaconry of Northampton are to meet this year at Oakham, on 9th proximo, Marquis of Northampton in the chair, when papers on Oakham Castle, Oakham Church, local church towers, &c., will be read, and an excursion arranged. One of the acting secretaries is the Rev. H. Green, of Hambleton, Oakham.

THE YORKSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY's quarterly committee met on Thursday week in its rooms, Minster-yard, York, when measures were taken to prevent, if possible, the destruction of the two ancient chapels of Bolton and Redmire, in Wensleydale; and a survey of the churches of the Deanery of Pontefract was decided on, in pursuance of the plan of ascertaining the characteristics of the Yorkshire churches in general. A grant is to be proposed for the restoration of the west window of St. Saviour's, York. On the same day a general half-yearly meeting was held, the Rev. S. Gamlen in the chair, when Mr. J. W. Huggall read a paper on the earlier portions of York Cathedral church.

ESSENTIAL OBJECTS OF EDUCATION.—They are—first, to cultivate all the various principles of our nature, both speculative and active, in such a manner as to bring them to the greatest perfection of which they are susceptible; and secondly, by watching over the impressions and associations which the mind receives in early life, to secure it against the influence of prevailing errors, and, so far as possible, to engage its prepossessions on the side of truth. That the teacher may rightly fulfil his duty in developing and improving the faculties, and in calling forth and regulating the affections of those committed to his charge, it is essential that he should have some acquaintance with the principles of the human mind. In general, his utmost aim at present corresponding with the extent of his capacity, is to lead the intellect through some of the lower processions of elementary teaching. Even this branch of duty opens to him a field of usefulness, on which he is seldom prepared to enter.—*Dugald Stuart.*

MARYLEBONE BATHS AND WASHHOUSES.—The time allowed by the Commissioners for preparing the competition plans is so short, that it may be reasonably doubted whether any plans worth having will be sent in. It is to be hoped that the Commissioners will take care that the plans which they eventually decide on are superior to any which are at present known. If not, the competition will have been, at the best, a sheer absurdity.

COPPER, LEAD, AND IRON.—The Commons have resolved that, in lieu of the present copper and lead duties on importation, copper ore and regulus shall be charged 1s. per ton; old copper or unwrought, part wrought, or plate copper, and coin, 2s. 6d. per ton; and pig and sheet lead, 2s. 6d. per ton.—The number of copper miners in Devon and Cornwall are estimated at 21,730 persons, or, with families, 61,000. These are exclusive of mechanists, tradesmen, farmers, &c., dependent on copper mines, estimated at 50,000 more.

—The export of Peruvian copper from America amounts annually to from 20,000 to 25,000 cwt. of ore, and 3,000 to 4,000 cwt. of smelted copper in pigs. It is brought chiefly from Corocoro in Bolivia.—A patent has been taken out in England by Mr. G. Witherell, of New York, for a machine for manufacturing iron under various forms, and imparting to it a twist, by which the fibre is laid in a spiral